

## PROJECT SUMMARY

**County:** El Dorado, Placer, Nevada, Sierra and Yuba

**Applicant:** High Sierra Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc.

**Project Title:** Welcome to the Foothills – A Guide to Living Lightly

### PROJECT GOAL

With the creation and distribution of the Welcome to the Foothill – A Guide to Living Lightly publication we will have an educational tool that helps residents be better stewards of the watersheds they live in. It will be a resource guide for beginning information on how to take care of their property, provide for personal safety and live in harmony with the flora, fauna and human neighbors.

### PROJECT SCOPE

With the influx of people moving to our rural areas from urban settings, the High Sierra Resource Conservation & Development Council (HSRC&D) and its' many partners recognized a need to educate the new residents about important natural resource issues affecting our rural foothill and mountain communities. Wildland/urban interface issues, living in an agricultural zone and the need to reduce the threat of catastrophic fires to our communities, were key motivations for pursuing the developing of this publication. Other key resource issues include degradation of water quality, reduced water availability, invasive non-native plants, soil erosion, human impacts on wildlife habitat, increasing numbers of conflicts with wildlife, declining forest health, and poor air quality. Critical social issues included: conflicts between neighbors, increasing insurance costs, and growing fire suppression costs,.

To address these issues, the HSRC&D is building off the template that the Yosemite/Sequoia RC&D developed with their publication "Welcome to the Foothills, a Guide to Living Lightly in \_\_\_\_\_ County." Their publication introduced these critical issues in easy to understand terms, and provided sources for additional information, as residents became interested and wanted to learn more. We will take the information and tailor it to our five counties. We are also adding the topic Living in an agricultural zone. We will complete publications for El Dorado, Placer, Nevada, Sierra and Yuba counties. These publications will include the following topics:

- What is a Watershed?
- Water Conservation
- Living in an agricultural zone
- Fire Hazard Reduction
- Water Quality
- Native/Drought tolerant plants
- Soil Care and Conservation
- Identifying and Dealing with Invasive Weeds
- Landscaping with Native Plants
- Oak Woodlands Preservation
- Coniferous Forest Management
- Septic System Care
- Preventing Erosion
- Living with Wildlife
- Air Quality
- Energy Conservation
- Trash Recycling

We include a resource section where a person can do for additional information on any of the topics that is included in the publication.

With the grant the Council will:

- Conduct initial scoping for content to be included in each of the five counties;
- Produce 10,000 copies of the publication for each of the five counties;
- Distribute newly printed copies to appropriate organizations;
- Prepare electronic files of each version for web publishing;
- Work with organizations to post the electronic file on their web site or link to another site that has the information;
- Incorporate content about the Sierra Nevada Conservancy into each version in cooperation with Conservancy staff; and
- To the extent possible, utilize environmentally preferable materials in producing the publications.

### **LETTERS OF SUPPORT**

- El Dorado County Supervisor Ron Briggs
- Sierra County Planning Department
- El Dorado Resource Conservation District
- Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District
- Sierra Economic Development Corporation

### **SNC PROJECT DELIVERABLES AND SCHEDULE**

<b>DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>
Initiate development of publications	March 2009
Initiate gathering and organizing content for all 5 counties	March 2009
Select graphic artist to complete publication	March 2009
Arrange printing services for publication	April 2009
Complete and submit six-month progress report to SNC	August 2009
Complete organization of content and finalize for all versions	November 2009
Send all 5 versions to printer for printing	December 2009
Convert all 5 copies into electronic files to publish on the web	January 2010
Finalize contacts for placements and begin distribution	February 2010
Complete distribution of publications	February 2010
Complete and submit twelve-month progress report to SNC	March 2010
Survey publication recipients to gain information its usefulness	May 2010
Complete Final Report/Final Payment Request to SNC	June 2010

### **SNC PROJECT COSTS**

<b>PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES</b>	<b>TOTAL SNC FUNDING</b>
Development and printing of 5 county specific publications (5 @ \$15,000 each)	\$75,000
Grant Administration	\$5,000
<b>SNC GRANT TOTAL</b>	<b>\$80,000</b>